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January 20, 2000 LB 182, 725

natural gas, and I don't have to talk. Yeah, okay.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It's unanimous consent objection, is there any objection? Seeing no objection, so ordered. Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next bill, LB 182 introduced by Senator Beutler. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 8 of last year, at that time referred to the Education Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM0671, Legislative Journal page 855, First Session, 1999.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, you are recognized to open on LB 182.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, this bill has been in the making for five years, if you count when it was first introduced in the...and the proceedings it's been through a couple of different sessions, and if you see fit to pass the bill, I will not miss it. And by that, I mean to indicate it's not that I'm going to miss the work. What I'm going to miss is the steady stream of bright, often brilliant, articulate high school students, the next generation of leadership of Nebraskans, who appeared year after year before the Education Committee in passionate defense of the First Amendment, and in articulate, logical defense of their right to that inheritance. For a few brief moments, the Education Committee could take an intellectual and emotional time out from the host of complex issues on its table and rejoice together in the pure demonstration before it of a new generation of strong, resolute, perceptive young Americans clearly capable of finishing any business we may leave undone, and further seeing that they would pursue the solutions with the same old values that you and I cherish including a respect bordering on reverence for the Bill of Rights. The names of the young people testifying were many, and included familiar names that further comforted one with the promise of continuity; Matt Beermann, student, Logan Seacrest, student. And, although the appearance of an industry association is not always a comfort to me, I was frankly pleased to see that Media of Nebraska stepped forward, and on a matter that has only philosophic and civic interest to